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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/650,262	08/27/2003	Yerramilli V.S.N. Murthy	61635-5016	6595

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EXAMINER

JAGOE, DONNA A

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1614

DATE MAILED: 03/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/650,262	Applicant(s) MURTHY ET AL.	
	Examiner Donna Jagoe	Art Unit 1614	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-14, and 44 drawn to a pharmaceutical composition that releases the active compound over time when administered by injection, classified in class 424, subclass 400.
- II. Claims 15-30, drawn to a method of administering the salt of an active compound and a lipophilic counterion in a water immiscible solvent, classified in class 514, subclass 566.
- III. Claims 31-43, drawn to a biphasic pharmaceutical composition when injected into water, classified in class 424, subclass 457.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product. See MPEP § 806.05(h). In the instant case the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product. See Klink et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,574,020 wherein tilcomysin is administered in an injectable form that provides sustained release of the formulation when injected.

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Inventions I and III are related as products which share an alleged common utility of a composition that is administered such that the active compound is mixed with a lipophilic counterion and a solvent that is water immiscible, but the common utility is not linked to a substantial structural feature. The products in this relationship are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the products encompass embodiments that are not required to perform the common utility or (2) that the products as claimed can be used to perform another utility. In this case, the products encompass embodiments that are not required to perform the common utility of for use as an injectable drug and the product of the group I invention is not required to be biphasic. Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art in view of their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species:

A. An active compound selected from tilmicosin, terbinafine, fluoxetine, oxytetracycline, doxycycline (tetracyclines), roxithromycin, terbinafine, trimethoprim, neomycin, streptomycin, gentamycin (aminoglycosides), dibucaine, bupivacaine, benzocaine, tetracaine, acepromazine and itraconazole.

B. A lipophilic counterion selected from lauric acid, decanoic acid, myristic acid, oleic acid, linoleic acid, sebacid acid, polysebacid acid, polyaspartic acid, polyacrylic acid and polybenzoic acid.

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C. A water immiscible solvent selected from saw flower oil, safflower oil, castor oil, isopropyl myristate, ethyl lactate, soybean oil, cottonseed oil, corn oil, sunflower oil, arachis oil, olive oil, palm oil, coconut oil, hemp seed oil, canola oil, almond oil, glycerin, a medium fatty acid, a long chain fatty acid, ethyl oleate, linoleic acid, isopropyl palmitate, a glycerol ester, a polyoxyl hydrogenated castor oil, cod liver oil and a fish derived oil.

The species are independent or distinct because the active compounds are selected from antibiotics, antifungal agents, anesthetic agents and psychotropic agents. Where there is no disclosure of a relationship between species (see MPEP § 806.04(b)), they are independent inventions.

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species **OF EACH OF A,B, AND C** for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1, 4, 11, 15, 24, 33 and 40 are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after

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the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species.

MPEP § 809.02(a).

Because these inventions are distinct/unrelated for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Moreover, because a search of each distinct/unrelated invention would not be coextensive with the other(s), and because each invention will require its own separate patentability analysis, an examination and search of multiple inventions in a single application would constitute a serious undue burden on the examiner.

It should be remembered that the purpose of an election of species requirement is to **simplify the search and issues considered during prosecution**, and that because this is so the ultimate allowance of a generic claim will encompass all additional species within the scope of the allowed genus. Stated alternatively, the purpose of an election of species requirement, as opposed to a restriction between claim groups, is to reduce the burden on the examiner during prosecution only; a full search is merely postponed until allowance of the generic claim.

No telephone communication need be made where the requirement for restriction is complex, the application is being prosecuted by the applicant pro se, or the examiner knows from past experience that an election will not be made by telephone. In this case, the restriction requirement is complex so a letter is being sent. See MPEP § 812.01 [R-3]

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Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species or invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected invention.

The election of an invention or species may be made with or without traverse. To reserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the restriction requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the inventions or species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the inventions or species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C.103 (a) of the other invention.

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

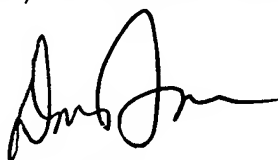
Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Donna Jagoe whose telephone number is (571) 272-0576. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christopher Low can be reached on (571) 272-0951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


CHRISTOPHER S. F. LOW
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600


Donna Jagoe
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1614

March 17, 2006